

EXPRESS MAIL NO. EL750738950US

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: Das et al. § Group Art Unit: Not Assigned
Serial No.: Not Assigned § Examiner: Not Assigned
Filed: _____ § Attorney Docket No.: YOR920010348US1
For: Apparatus, System and Method for Automatically Making Operational Purchasing Decisions

ASSOCIATE POWER OF ATTORNEY

Assistant Commissioner of Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

I hereby appoint Duke W. Yee, Reg. No. 34,285; Colin P. Cahoon, Reg. No. 38,836; David W. Carstens, Reg. No. 34,134; Stephen R. Loe, Reg. No. 43,757; Stephen J. Walder, Jr., Reg. No. 41,534; Charles D. Stepps, Jr., Reg. No. 45,880; Stephen R. Tkacs, Reg. No. 46,430; Christopher P. O'Hagan, Reg. No. 46,966; Lisa L.B. Yociss, Reg. No. 36,975; Michael Nichols, Reg. No. 46,959, and Frank F. Tian, Reg. No. 46,462, located at P.O. Box 802334, Dallas, Texas, 75380, telephone 972/367-2001, as associate attorneys to prosecute the above-identified application and transact business in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office connected herewith. This appointment does not revoke the previous Power of Attorney for this case.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: July 25, 2001

Gail H. Zarick
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Intellectual Property Law Department
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DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY FOR PATENT APPLICATION

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name;

I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled

APPARATUS, SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR AUTOMATICALLY MAKING OPERATIONAL PURCHASING DECISIONS

the specification of which (check one)

X is attached hereto.

— was filed on _____
as Application Serial No. _____
and was amended on _____
(if applicable)

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to the patentability of this application in accordance with Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, §1.56.

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code, §119 of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate listed below and have also identified below any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed:

Prior Foreign Application(s):

Priority Claimed

____ Yes ____ No

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, §120 of any United States application(s) listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of Title 35, United States Code, §112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose information material to the patentability of this application as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, §1.56 which occurred between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application:

| (Application Serial #) | (Filing Date) | (Status) |
|------------------------|---------------|----------|
|------------------------|---------------|----------|

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

POWER OF ATTORNEY: As a named inventor, I hereby appoint the following attorneys and/or agents to prosecute this application and transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith.

Manny W. Schecter (Reg. 31,722); Lauren C. Bruzzone (Reg. 35,082) Christopher A. Hughes (Reg. 26,914); John E. Hoel (Reg. 26,279); Joseph C. Redmond, Jr. (Reg. 18,753); Stanley B. Green (Reg. 24,351); Richard M. Ludwin (Reg. 33,010); Marc A. Ehrlich (Reg. 39, 966); Douglas W. Cameron (Reg. 31,596); Louis P. Herzberg (Reg. 41,500); Marian Underweiser (Reg. 46,134); Stephen C. Kaufman (Reg. 29,551); Daniel P. Morris (Reg. 32,053); Louis J. Percello (Reg. 33,206); Robert M. Trepp (Reg. 25,933); Gail H. Zarick (Reg. 43,303); Robert P. Tassinari, Jr. (Reg. 36,030); Paul J. Otterstedt (Reg. 37,411); Derek S. Jennings (Reg. 41,473); and Timothy M. Farrell (Reg. 37,321).

Send correspondence to: Duke W. Yee, Carstens, Yee & Cahoon, LLP, P.O. Box 802334, Dallas, Texas 75380 and direct all telephone calls to Duke W. Yee, (972) 367-2001.

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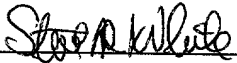
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